Application No.: 09/944,190

Amendment dated August 19, 2004 Reply to Office Action of April 29, 2004

Amendments to the Claims

Please replace claims 1-82 with the following amended claims 1-93:

1-77. (Cancelled)

78. (*Currently amended*) A trocar comprising:

an elongated cannula member having a first camming surface formed on a proximal end thereof and a radially-expandable opening formed on a distal end thereof;

an elongated obturator adapted to be inserted into the cannula for rotational and axial movement therein, said obturator comprising a shaft having a distal end; and

a point formed on the distal end of the shaft, said point tapering distally from a maximum diameter band and tapering proximally from said band to the shaft, said band being larger in girth than the distal cannula opening;

said band being distally adjacent the distal cannula opening when the obturator is substantially fully inserted into the cannula; and

a cap formed on a proximal end of the obturator, said cap having a second camming surface positioned thereon for engagement with the first camming surface when the obturator is <u>substantially fully</u> inserted into the cannula,

said first and second camming surfaces being effective to impinge each ether, slidably engage, and cause proximal axial displacement of the obturator with respect to the cannula member when the obturator cap is rotated with respect to the cannula member, said distal cannula opening expanding radially as the maximum diameter band moves proximally through it.

79. (Cancelled)

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80. (Currently amended) The trocar as recited in claim 78, wherein at least one of

the first camming surface and the second camming surface comprises an

inclined surface.

81. (Currently amended) The trocar as recited in claim 78, wherein at least one

of the first camming surface and the second camming surface comprises one

of a projection, a recess, and a boss.

82. (Currently amended) The trocar as recited in claim 78, wherein at least one

of the first camming surface and the second camming surface comprises one

of a linear and a curvilinear surface.

83. (New) The trocar as recited in claim 78, wherein the first camming surface

formed on the proximal end of the cannula comprises a surface of a projection on a

periphery of a head assembly positioned on the proximal end of the cannula and the at

least one second bearing surface comprises a surface of a recess positioned on a

periphery of the cap assembly of the obturator.

84. (New) The trocar as recited in claim 83, wherein the projection on the

periphery of the head assembly comprises an elliptical projection and the recess on the

periphery of the cap comprises an elliptical recess.

85. (New) The trocar as recited in claim 78, wherein the radially-expandable

opening formed in the distal end of the cannula comprises a smooth and continuous

radially-expandable opening.

86. (New) The trocar as recited in claim 78, wherein the radially-expandable

opening formed in the distal end of the cannula comprises radially-expandable opening

having at least one axial slot.

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87. (New) The trocar as recited in claim 78, wherein the first camming surface

comprises a first bearing surface and the second camming surface comprises a second

bearing surface.

88. (New) The trocar as recited in claim 78, wherein the first camming surface on

the cannula is moveable relative to the cannula.

89. (New) The trocar as recited in claim 78, wherein the second camming surface

on the cap of the obturator is moveable relative to the obturator.

90. (New) The trocar as recited in claim 78, wherein the cannula further

comprises a head assembly formed on the proximal end thereof, and the head

assembly comprises a seal which permits the passage of the obturator through the

head assembly with little or no fluid leakage.

91. (New) The trocar as recited in claim 90, wherein the head assembly further

comprises a fluid port.

92. (New) The trocar as recited in claim 91, wherein the fluid port includes a

valve.

93. (New) The trocar as recited in claim 78, wherein at least one of the cannula

and the obturator is non-metallic.

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